(b) the post-wise number of Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes applicants out of these;

(c) whether some posts reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in such departments/undertakings are lying vacant;

(d) if so, the post-wise details thereof;

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to fill up these reserved posts; and

(f) by when all the reserved posts are likely to be filled up and the reasons for delay therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) to (f) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Interest on Income Tax

456. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have issued any order in February, 1997 for charging interest on Income Tax from the salary of Government employees while deducting the same for the year 1996-97.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps being taken to refund the amount of interest on Income Tax from the salary of employees in some Government Departments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No such instances have come to the notice of the Department of Revenue.

[English]

Colgate Palmolive Limited

457. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (HARDOI): Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3634 dated December 20, 1995 regarding Colgate Palmolive Limited and state;

(a) the progress made in the disposal of the cases listed in the annexure to the above stated reply;

(b) the steps taken for early disposal of the cases by eliminating delaying tactics; and

(c) the steps taken to strengthen the MRTP Commission to cut short the delay in the disposal of the cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) A statement indicating the present position of the cases of investigations/enquiries with the MRTP Commission in respect of M/s. Colgate Palmolive (India) Limited, M/s. Hindustan Lever Limited and M/s. Ponds India Limited for the year 1993, 1994 and 1995 listed in the annexure to the reply given to parts (a) & (b) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3634 dated 20.12.1995 is attached.

The aforesaid cases are at different stages of consideration with the MRTP Commission. The Commission is a quasi-judicial body and is required to follow the procedure laid down in the MRTP Act, 1969, the Regulations framed thereunder and the Code of Civil Procedure. The time involved in disposing of the enquiries depends upon the nature of pleadings, the number of witnesses to be examined and securing and providing of documents etc. As such the matters are sub-judice before the Commission and they are empowered to take further necessary action under the provision of the MRTP Act. 1969.

(c) The Government has administratively strengthened the Commission by increasing the sanctioned strength of its Members from three to five in addition to Chairman with a view to speed up the disposal of cases.

Statement

Cases of Investigations/Enquiries with the MRTP Commission in respect of Colgate Palmolive (India) Ltd., Hindustan Lever Ltd. and Ponds India Ltd. for the Years 1993, 1994 and 1995 Yearwise

Year	*Sl. No.*	*Enquiry No.*	*Name of the Respondent*	*Allegations*	*Present position*
1	2	3	4	5	6
1993	1.	RTPE 18/93	Hindustan Lever Ltd., Bombay	Selling of Shampoo in sachet packs at predatory prices to eliminate competition/competitors.	The matter is listed for evidence on 29.7.97.